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DISOBEYING OUR LAWS.

Who are the law breakers? Who is responsible for the sin and disobedience to the laws—for the crimes that are being committed all over our country today?

When we break the laws of our country, we have broken God's laws also.

The disobedience to God's laws dates back to the time when Sodom was destroyed for their disobedience, when there could not be, even ten righteous ones found within the gates of the city, and farther back to Cain, who killed his brother, and still farther back to the first man, who refused to obey the first command that was ever given, by God, to man. The Children of Israel were given a set of laws, but refused to obey them, and, as a punishment, for their disobedience, they were kept in bondage, in a strange land, for seventy years. Joseph was the first one of twelve tribes of Israel to go down into Egypt. He was sold by his brothers to the Ishmaelites, who sold him to Potiphar for a slave. This was the beginning of the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah, prophesied two hundred years before this.

The Children of Israel were given the ten commandments, and were told to teach them to their children sitting in their homes, walking with them by the way-side, before they slept at night and when they awoke in the morning.

I believe if this command had been kept and the people of today were obeying the same command, there would not be so many of the laws of our country broken.

The command is the same today, as it was to the Children of Israel. The people of the present time are more responsible to God, when they break one of His laws, for they are living in a more enlightened age. The Children of Israel were God's chosen people. They were commanded to spread the gospel through all the world. They failed to obey this command. They worshiped idols, and refused to worship the true God, and brought punishment on themselves.

The Christians of today represent God's people. We are commanded to spread the gospel, as much as the Children of Israel were. When we forget God, we are going to be punished, as the people before us have been. If the church of God, those who profess to be followers of Christ, would obey God's laws as the Great Christian Martyr Stephen did, when he was stoned to death, because he preached the true gospel—and the great outstanding character, Daniel, and the three Hebrew Children did when they refused to eat the meats and drink the wine, that had been offered up, as a sacrifice, to a Babylonian idol for fear of offending the true God, there would not be so many of the laws broken in this country of ours, in our homes, and in our neighbor's homes. We would not have so much use for prison cells, for court houses and for penitentiaries. If we will keep God's laws, the laws of our country will not be broken.

If the old family Bible could be unearthed, and the old time family altar could be erected again, there would not be so many broken hearted mothers, there would not be so many wrecked homes. There would not be so many crimes committed. If we as Christians, would be more careful about our way of living, the ones who are not Christians would not find so much fault with the church. If the church members would do away with their card tables, dance halls and the wine cup and take the Bible as their guide, and live according to its teachings, there will not be any need of policemen or sheriff to enforce their laws.

When we dance, play cards and drink wine, we are not doing what God has commanded us to do. We are responsible for the example we set before the world. They are looking to the church for guidance. The children are watching our movements. They will imitate parents and older ones of the family. They will also imitate us, as church members. We have a great responsibility on us, as church members. We should consider the ones who are following in our footsteps.

We ought to be interested enough in the young people of today to consider our way of living, and see if it is the kind of life that we would have them live. Will there be any cause for reflection after we have passed into the great eternity? or, are we leaving a life behind us that they will be proud of. A life that has been true to our country and to God? There is a life beyond the grave. We don't any of us know, just what is in store for us in the great beyond.

Sometimes when I am almost overcome with the trials of this life, and my little bark is floundering in the waves of the dark sea of time, I wonder what is on the other side—I wonder what's in store for me there. We can't understand why we have been left in this world to fight the battles with the waves of the rough sea of life, but over and above and through it all, the hand of God will guide us, and steer us into a safe

harbor at last, if only, we will listen to His teachings.

We should always be mindful that there is a supreme being above us, who has charge of all of our lives, and some day, we will have to stand before the Great Tribunal Bar, and give an account of the life we have lived here below. What is our answer going to be? We are the ones to decide this question.

Mrs. Jerry R. Leatherwood, Waynesville, N. C. May 19, 1925.

HONORABLE PUBLICITY.

Asheville Times.

The helpful publicity which Asheville and Western North Carolina are obtaining from their participation in the Southern Exposition in New York is illustrated by the following news story which appeared in the New York American:

"Although noted as an all-year-round resort section, Asheville, N. C., has increased tremendously as an industrial community during the last year. This growth is reflected in the commercial and manufacturing exhibits contained in the display of Asheville Chamber of Commerce at the Southern Exposition in Grand Central Palace.

"Hand-woven cloth, homespun clothing, hand-carved wooden utilities, as well as exquisitely formed pottery, earthenware, tanned leather and walnut and mahogany furniture are included in the Asheville exhibition. The display, occupying more than 100 feet of frontage on the main floor of the exposition, is under the supervision of Roger Miller, manager of the Asheville Chamber of Commerce.

"Development of Asheville as a manufacturing and commercial community, Mr. Miller explains, with graphic charts, photographs and actual products, has been of but recent conception, although it has been remarkably rapid. During the last two years more than \$8,000,000 was invested in new office structure and plants in and around Asheville, both by old and new manufacturing concerns. One of the largest paper mills of the country, the Champion Fibre Co., is located at Canton JUST OUTSIDE ASHEVILLE.

"In connection with this factory, Mr. Miller explains that if all the wood consumed in the plant in one year were placed in one big pile it would make a heap of lumber four times the size and height of the Woolworth Building.

"The city had a tremendous building growth during the last year. During 1924, new buildings valued at four and one-half million dollars were constructed, while during the months of January and February and March of this year more than \$2,000,000 has been expended in the construction of business places, apartment houses and homes."

The New York newspapers are not in the habit of throwing their columns open to propaganda. As a general rule, they give space only to those happenings which have real news value. The publication of this story in

The American is convincing proof that the Asheville exhibit is exciting real attention and for that reason is worthy of a rather lengthy story in The American's columns.

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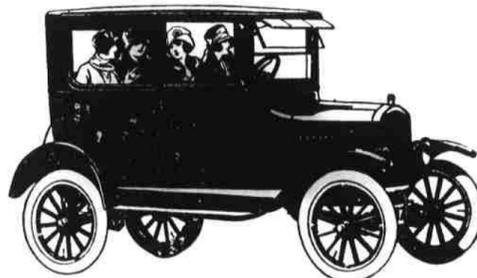
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